



Burbank School District 111

Board Briefs

November 17, 2021

Board of Education Meeting Summary

- Ms. Schmitz and Ms. Rein gave a principal's report which included a flashback of events and activities that were held the previous month and a flash forward of great things to come.
- November 15 was School Board Members Day in Illinois and this year's theme was Inspiration & Leadership. Dr. Fleck recognized our board members for their commitment to the students, staff, and residents of Burbank School District 111.
 - Peter Terrazzino – new member
 - Michael Atilano – new member
 - Agnieszka Dabrowski – new member
 - Tricia Ponicki – 2 years
 - Thomas Jansen – 2 years
 - Stash Stefanek – 5 years
 - Jessica Thomas – 7 years
- Ms. Lindemann gave a brief staffing update. In recognition of paraprofessional and school-related support personnel day, she thanked our full- and part-time support staff professionals across the district. Ms. Lindemann said the recent job fair brought in some community members who are in the process of applying for substitute and part-time support positions. She also said the increase in substitute pay that was approved last month brought back a few former subs and we are experiencing fewer sub cancellations.
- Ms. Flavin reviewed the recent Branching Minds training that took place November 10. She said that principals and Branching Minds team members provided asynchronous training as a refresher during the after-school meeting. She said Twig Science Curriculum teams met by grade level to determine module pacing and the use of fast track or full-length lessons. Ms. Flavin said that Curriculum Council met on November 15 and discussed protocols for missing Twig Science materials, Wonders staff survey results, and previewed two reading series: Wonders 2020 and Savvas My View.
- Ms. Welsh submitted a written report stating that the early childhood team is continuing to work on navigating the updated Curriculum Gold and welcomed a new team member. She said the EB department met with the Equity Leadership Initiative for the second professional development to support staff, students, and families with practical strategies to support equity within the district. She said the coaches are still completing video observations with first year teachers and working with newly hired teachers as well as veteran teachers seeking assistance. She said the interventionists are working on an incentive program for students and the recent mentoring meeting covered parent/teacher conferences, formal observations, Standards for Success, Easy CBM overview, and differentiation.
- Dr. Hock said that crisis teams at Burbank, Byrd, and Kennedy had CPI physical management training on November 2 and the virtual modules for verbal de-escalation training will be sent to Liberty, Fry, and Tobin schools prior to winter break. She said Easter Seals will be supporting instructional classrooms at Kennedy and Tobin on November 18. She also gave an update on

meetings held with related service staff and mentors as well as the recent conference for Fry staff members, which focused on executive functioning for students with reading and learning disabilities. Dr. Hock recognized student services department staff members as well as the health department for their efforts in handling COVID cases, physicals/immunizations, and for helping out wherever they are needed in their buildings.

- Dr. Ochoa gave an update on the Macoupin County Class Action Suit against school districts regarding COVID-19 protocols. She said she's been in contact with SSCIP and the district attorneys and is awaiting the decision on a change of venue from the courts. Dr. Ochoa said that student transportation continues to be an issue and regular communication with First Student will continue along with weekly rider counts, possible double routes, notification of late buses, and verifying all students are seated while driving. In regards to the audit, she said that Industrial Appraisal is currently working on a revised FY21 appraisal report and there still has been no guidance issued on ESSER funds. Dr. Ochoa distributed a presentation on the 2021 Tax Levy and said it will also be posted on the business department web page. She reviewed the tentative tax levy and said the public hearing will be held at 5:45 pm prior to the December 15 board meeting.
- Mr. Ficker said that several coaches and administrators have been trained on driving the new activity bus for sports and the accelerated student route. He gave an update on the library furniture for Byrd and Maddock as well as the flexible classroom furniture for the remainder of the K-5 classrooms. Mr. Ficker said that summer projects were reviewed with Allied Facility Partners and additional projects, such as exterior doors and asphalt repair, may be added into the scope as the budget allows. He also noted the possibility of getting some asbestos abatement done during winter break in preparation for the washroom renovations taking place this summer. Mr. Ficker said that he will be working on a plan for replacing control devices throughout the district as some are over ten years old. Finally, he thanked the buildings and grounds staff for their work in preparing for the winter season.
- Mr. McCartney said the Request for Proposals for network services has been posted and the final selection will be recommended for board approval in January or February. He said the Fry and Maddock projector project is still delayed due to shipping issues, but a few have come in. He said that our liability insurance is requiring multi-form authentication for all staff by January 1, 2022 and they are currently working on phasing that in for staff by the end of the year. Mr. McCartney said the current phone system is eleven years old and he is currently researching whether to refresh the server or start a new hosted service. He said that devices for refreshes will be ordered by February to account for shipping delays.
- The board approved employment recommendations.
- Coaches and sponsors for the 2021-22 school year were approved.
- Student teaching placements for the 2021-22 fall semester were approved.
- The board adopted the tentative tax levy and set the public hearing for December 15 at 5:45 pm.
- Ms. Lindemann and Kate Mendez gave an overview of the progress of the LGBTQ+ Committee, which has been working on recommending curriculum and procedures that address gender inclusive practices throughout the district. The goal is to foster an environment for LGBTQ+ students to thrive and succeed along with their peers. They said a parent presentation on gender identity will be held December 8 at 6:00 pm via Teams.